

Carline Chronicle

Events and reminders for the week of:
January 3, 2017

THIS WEEK

- ❖ **Thursday, January 5:**
Twelfth Night presented by 8th grade.
1pm and 6pm. Gym. All are invited!

NEXT WEEK

- ❖ **Tuesday, January 10:**
PTA Meeting. 6:30pm. Library. Please join us!

SAVE THE DATES

- ❖ **Monday, January 16:**
MLK Day. No school. Campus closed.
- ❖ **Friday, January 20:**
Field Trip Friday. 8am -3:30pm. See teacher blogs for details for your class.
- ❖ **Monday, January 23:**
MAP begins for K-8.
Board Meeting. 6:30pm. Library.

WELCOME BACK, FALCONS!

We hope you are well rested and enjoyed the long vacation! Resuming a regular routine after breaks can sometimes be a challenge but we hope you are as excited as we are to see everyone back and ready for a fresh, new year. Here are a few reminders about what's in store as we greet 2017:

- ✓ **MAP assessments** will begin on Monday, January 23. Your classroom teacher will know which days your children are scheduled to participate. See below for more info.
- ✓ **Parent/Teacher conferences** will be February 3 and 10. Be sure to sign up for a conference time!
- ✓ **Semester 2 begins** on February 6.
- ✓ **Midyear progress reports** will come out around the same time. This is a formal "snapshot" in time of how your child is progressing towards mastery of end of year learning objectives.

SUBSCRIBING TO FALCON FLASH

Falcon Flash is the school's e-newsletter sent to subscribers at the end of each week. For those of you who wish to receive Falcon Flash, action is required. Due to anti-spam laws, it is up to you to subscribe to the email version. Go to our website, cascadeheights.org, and follow the "Subscribe to Falcon Flash" link in the bottom right hand corner.

WINTER MAP

During late January/ early February, 2017, children at Cascade Heights will take assessments called Measures of Academic Progress™ (MAP). We use MAP to determine what your child knows and is ready to learn, as well as to measure academic growth throughout the school year, and from year to year.

All students take Reading, Language Usage and Mathematics. Grades 3 – 8 also take Science. MAP assessments are also taken in fall and spring. This yields three data points which allows for measuring growth through the year.

MAP assessments are unique in that they adapt to be appropriate for your child's level of learning. As a result, each student has the same opportunity to succeed and maintain a positive attitude toward assessment. And with MAP, we can administer shorter assessments and use less class time while still receiving detailed, accurate information about your child's academic growth.

The assessments are completed in multiple sessions and are taken on a computer. Results are reported in RIT scores. RIT is an equal-interval scale, like feet and inches, that measures item difficulty and is independent of grade level. This is different from tests that give results based on percentage correct or by comparing your child to others in the same grade. This makes RIT scores a valuable tool to improve student learning. With it, we can easily measure each child's growth, allowing teachers to use it to inform instruction, students to use it for goal setting, and to provide parents with a clear picture of student growth and how to support your children's learning.

Partnering to help all children learn, parents and teachers have a profound positive effect on the lives of our children. We are truly excited to be able to use MAP to focus on every child's individual growth and achievement. For more information on assessments at CHPCS as well as resources for parents, see the Assessment page on our website (cascadeheights.org) under **Academics**. There you can download the *Parent Toolkit, Strategies Packet for Parents and Students*, and read our *FAQ*. You can also help by making sure your child gets a good night's rest and eats a healthy breakfast not only on assessment days, but every day.